



Since this is the last issue of The White Falcon for 2005, the staff would like to take this opportunity to thank our loyal readers and wish everyone a happy holiday season. We hope everyone enjoys this special time of year with their families and friends, and come back safely for another successful and fulfilling new year. Next year The White Falcon will be going through a major makeover. The most significant of these changes is our move to a bi-weekly paper. We will continue to provide news and features about and for the commands and people at Naval Air Station Keflavik. We will continue to rely on you to provide us with tips on what is happening around the base and upcoming events that are newsworthy and important to the community at large. Although the frequency and look of the paper will change, the quality that you have come to rely on will continue. (Photo by JO2 Matthew Bradley)

## New BAH rates could mean more or less money for Servicemembers

Beginning in January, all military services will eliminate geographic rate protection for the basic allowance for housing.

For the last five years, geographic rate protection meant the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) rates around military communities could never drop, even when estimates for median housing costs in an area suggested they should.

Under the current system, new arrivals at an installation would receive the protected BAH rate, even if housing rates in the area had dropped and adequate housing was available for them at a lower cost.

In 2006, BAH rates will fluctuate yearly based on housing cost estimates made from data collected regionally by military housing offices. The budget-conscious move by the Department of Defense

(DOD) is designed to save money at a time when resources are tight.

Under the new system, people who remain in an area will never see a lowering of their individual BAH rate. That policy, called individual rate protection, is designed to ensure military members who have already established homes aren't faced with a cut in their BAH rate.

Individual rate protection is designed to protect service members when the median housing rates in an area drop but landlords don't lower rents to match them.

Individual rate protection ensures service members will always receive ample funding to remain in the homes they have established, and at the same time provides DOD a common-sense way to fund that allowance.

But the policy will create situations where two military members of the same rank and with the same dependent status may receive different BAH rates. Individual rate protection allows in-place members to keep their BAH rate for a region while BAH rates in the area may fall.

So a newcomer can get the same quality of housing at a lower cost.

"When you signed your lease, you were locked into a rate in a housing market that had a higher cost, on

average," said U.S. Air Force Capt. Charles Parada, chief of the Air Force's basic allowance for housing program. "But a newcomer could face a lower-cost market."

Parada says whatever BAH rate a member receives at a new duty station will be fair.

"The new BAH program will always allow you to afford adequate housing for your grade and dependency status in the current market," he said.

Parada also said that all members in a region are entitled to increases in the BAH rate as they occur.

Besides changes to rate protection, there are two additional changes to BAH coming for the Air Force and other services in the 2006.

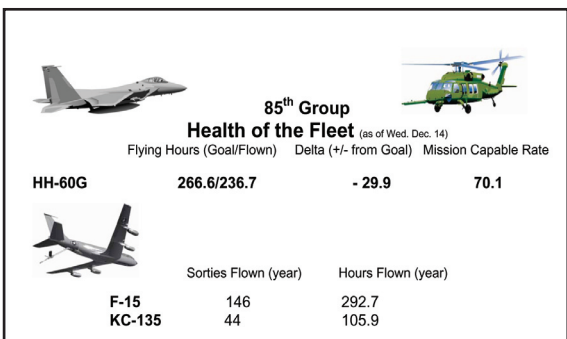
The first is the elimination of the BAH differential for members living off base.

The second is a change to in-transit BAH rates for new Airmen.

"What members will be paid now is a BAH rate with dependents, versus the BAH differential," Parada said. "In most cases, the new rate will be an increase for members, though in some areas it may be lower."

The BAH differential is a flat rate, based on grade, paid to members who are paying court-ordered child

See BAH pg. 4



# COMMUNITY PAGE

## News You Can Use

### Women Infant Children Overseas

The WIC Overseas office will be closed from Dec. 26 to Jan 6, 2006. The office staff wishes everyone – Happy Holidays. For questions or to schedule an appointment, call 4129.

### Watch Night Service 2006

Abundant Life Ministries will host a Watch Night Service at the Community Center on Dec. 31 at 10:30 p.m. Bring in the New Year with praise, worship and fellowship. Everyone is welcome. A breakfast buffet will be provided. Questions contact Minister Evon Lewis 4722.

### American Red Cross

The American Red Cross is offering a Community First Aid and Safety course on Jan. 7, 2006, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Course covers adult, child, and infant CPR as well as First Aid. Call 6255 to sign up - space is limited.

### KYAA needs you

KYAA is in desperate need of help. KYAA has played a major role in providing activities to our base youth. KYAA is pleased to announce that a sufficient number of players were registered this past weekend and there will be a basketball season. The season will start the second week of January, with a coach's meeting happening the first week of January. We are still in need of volunteers for referees and scorekeepers. If interested, contact Tech. Sgt. Jim Miller at 3077 or icephoto@pair.com or Staff Sgt. Tammy Clifford at 5842.

### Thrift Savings Plan

Military Pay Advisory 49/05 provides information on "Catch-Up" Contributions for Calendar Year 2006. All TSP Catch-Up Participants must make a new election every calendar year. For more information contact your Departmental Command Financial Specialist or Command Financial

Specialist Chief Dexter Johnson at 4111.

### Central Texas College

Instructors needed for the following fields: Criminal Justice; Emergency Medical Technology; Food Services Management; Fire Sciences; Automotive Technician; Electronics; Military Science. For more information contact Juanita at 4408.

### Navy College Office notes

Director/Test Control Officer Navy College Office will be out of the office through Jan. 3, 2006. Tuition Assistance (TA) requests will be processed by the Sigonella office. Please scan your TA and send as an attachment to Julio Garcia at jugarcia@nassig.sicily.navy.mil. Julio's phone number is DSN 314-624-4514. Please ensure that you use the updated version. Julio will not have time to verify if you are providing the correct course code, title, cost, etc. He has to also process TA Applications for Bahrain and Souda Bay.

CLEP/DSST/ECI testing will resume on Jan. 10, 2006 at 1 p.m. in room 113.

The Education Building will be closed from Dec 26 - Jan. 2, 2006. Schools will be on their Winter break.

Term 3 registration is scheduled from Jan 3 - 13, 2006. Jan. 3, 2006 is reserve for military personnel only.

If you have an emergency, please contact DSN 694-2672 for assistance.

### Spouse Tuition Assistance

The Air Force Education office is now accepting Spouse Tuition Assistance applications for Term 3. The deadline for applications is Dec. 30. For further information call Monique Roux (pronounced: Roo) at 2600.

### Commissary Holiday hours

Sat. Dec. 24 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Sun. Dec. 25 Closed, Sat. Dec. 31 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Sun. Jan. 1, 06 Closed

### University of Oklahoma

Earn your graduate degree in 16 – 20 months with University of Oklahoma. Begin your reach for excellence by enrolling in the next course, Research in Human Relations, before Dec. 20. Call Jim Rail at 2405 for more information.

### Education Building Closure

The Education Building (349) will be closed from Dec. 26 to Jan. 2, 2006 for Winter break.

### NCIS Needs Help

Anyone with information that could possibly assist with the ongoing death investigation should contact 2113, 2114 or 862-6941.

### Box Tops for A.T. Mahan Elementary School

A.T. Mahan Elementary School PTO needs your box tops! We have set a goal of raising \$3,500 this year and each box top contributes 10 cents towards that goal. There are collection boxes at the school and commissary. You can also sign up for the box top booster club at <http://www.boxtops4education.com>. The school receives 50 cents for each new member. If you shop for your holiday presents through the web site, the school will receive a percentage of your purchase. If you or your organization is interested in helping out, please contact Tech. Sgt. Patricia Sieja at 7778 or 7862.

### Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)

MOPS meetings are held monthly on the second Monday of the month, 10 a.m. at the Chapel Annex. Points of contact are Kimberly at 7836 or via email at mincherfam@mwr.is or Amber at 2950 or via email at alcoserfamily@yahoo.com.

Playgroups are every Friday at the Playzone noon – 2 p.m.

### Volunteer Tax Preparers

Navy Legal is looking for volunteer for the upcoming tax season. The training is tentatively scheduled for Jan. 9 - 13. If interested contact LNI (SW) Robert Nail or Jane Lieberman at 7900.



support. In 2006, the differential will no longer exist for members residing off base. Instead, they will receive the BAH with-dependents rate, even if they have no dependents in their home. Because the BAH with-dependents rate fluctuates region to region, some members in low-cost housing markets may receive less money than they had with the flat-rate BAH differential, though the situation occurs in few areas, Parada said.

The BAH differential rate will also be eliminated outside the United States. But there, members receive an overseas housing allowance (OHA), instead of the stateside BAH.

Like in the United States, with the elimination of the BAH differential, members overseas residing off base will begin receiving the OHA with-dependent rate.

But unlike in the United States, overseas members do not always receive the full OHA. Instead, they receive only that amount they spend on rent. For those members, it will be impossible to extract the extra benefit provided by an OHA with-dependent rate to use toward child support.

Parada said the move was the best possible solution found by DOD to provide the best benefit to the most members.

"All four services had to come to an agreement on these issues, to find a solution most equitable for the most members," he said. "This was the best solution to benefit most members." Under the new plan for BAH differential, members entitled to the differential will continue to receive it if they live in government quarters.

A final change to military BAH policy involves new military members who are traveling from their initial training location to their first duty station.

When new accessions to the Air Force travel from their initial training location to their first duty station, they are said to be "in transit." Most new Airmen who are single receive the BAH II rate, commonly called "BAH in transit." Like the BAH differential, BAH II is a flat rate, tied only to a member's rank.

Today, almost all new unaccompanied Airmen receive the BAH II rate as they travel to their first duty station. That group of Airmen includes officer training school graduates (non-prior service) and basic trainees.

The exception has been Airmen coming out of the Air Force Academy. Those new officers, upon graduation, received the full BAH rate based on housing costs in Colorado Springs, Colo., the location of the school.

In 2006, Air Force Academy graduates will begin receiving only the BAH II rate until they arrive at their new duty station.

That change was based on what other services were paying to their service academy graduates and on a general perception of equity among all military members, Parada said.

"All accessions will now be treated equally across the Air Force and across all services," he added. "DOD decided to unify the policy so everybody was doing the same thing. They decided they will pay the Academy folks the BAH II rate in line with other services and other accessions."

Parada said that under the new policy, new members with dependents continue to be entitled to full BAH.

Members with questions on BAH payments should visit: <https://secureapp2.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem>.

Members with questions on the process used to set BAH rates should contact their local housing office. An e-mail account has been set up to take questions at [BAH.hotline@pentagon.af.mil](mailto:BAH.hotline@pentagon.af.mil).

# New Year's celebrations in Iceland

*Special to The White Falcon*



*Photo by LI2 Luke Basset*

For a long time bonfires and Elf dances have been the main celebrations in Iceland on New Year's Eve.

The oldest example of a New Year's bonfire is from 1791 when students from Hólavallaschool in Reykjavík lit a fire on Landakotshill where the Catholic Cathedral is located today. The bonfire was there so that people could see it from miles away.

In the latter half of the 19th century the custom of a New Year's bonfire spread throughout the country along with torch parades.

Not everyone was happy about what was happening.

"Of all common entertainments we can take New Year's and Twelfth Night bonfires. They are no fun at all, people are too drunk and because of all the drinking people start to fight but that is rather common," Klemenz Jónsson, born 1862.

Around this time people started to have Elf dances because of the people's belief in Elves, the Elf dancing took place on the pond (the lake in the city of Reykjavík). When people were dancing and dressed like elves they sang some songs. Many of those songs are well known and Sæmundur Eyjólfsson calls one of the most popular songs "Elf Dance". Here is the first verse:

***There is joy in every hill,  
everybody loudly sings.  
This last Christmas night we will  
celebrate with elf - begins.  
Refrain:  
The darkness is beautiful,  
when filled with mystic songs.  
Singing loud and dancing  
and joyful, all night long.***

The first elf dance dates back to 1871.

One of the best-known scenes on New Year's Eve is the Elf Ride that could be seen because the elves were moving that day from one location to another.

More likely is that on Christmas and New Year's Eve people went to church and then you were able to see a group of people moving around in the dark mistaking them for elves.

Because the elves chose to move that day the lady of the house would clean the farm and put light in every corner to drive out the shadows. After all the cleaning was done it was supposed to be more effective if the lady of the farm walked around the farm saying: Come, whoever wants to

come, stay, whoever wants to stay, go, whoever wants to go, without harm to me and mine.

Burning lights were left on thru the night and for a long time it was considered very important to leave at least one light burning on Christmas and New Year's Eve.

There are many stories about the hidden people visiting farms on those days when only one person is home.

Both on Christmas and New Year's Eve people attended church and someone was left behind to take care of the farm. When the hidden people came they entertained themselves by eating the food, drinking the wine, singing, dancing and playing music.

When this was happening, it was very important for the person taking care of the farm to take no part in the fun with the hidden people, but just wait until morning and then by surprise try to scare the hidden people with the sentence; "Thank God, morning is coming!" or something similar.

When the hidden people heard that morning was coming, they rushed away and forgot to take all their belongings with them.

If that happened, the person who stayed at the farm was allowed to keep everything that belonged to the hidden people and usually that was a lot.

Other stories say that often the lady of the house decided to stay home on Christmas or New Year's Eve when all the others went to church. Actually she was one of the hidden people herself and was only able to pay her hidden people family a visit in the hidden people world once a year and only that night.

It has been common belief in Iceland that elves move on New Year's Eve, that night was chosen for sitting out on crossroads in order to be in their way. The elves cannot get past the man sitting on the roads and therefore make him all kinds of offers, gold and treasures. If the man keeps silent all thru the night the treasures will remain his.

Few came unscathed from lying on crossroads.

The best-known story is of a man who had persevered almost through the night despite offers of gold and silver. Shortly before dawn an elf woman finally came along with a ladleful of hot drippings, which to him was the most delectable kind of nourishment. When this happened, he could not help glancing at the ladle and uttering the words that have since become an adage for those giving in to temptations: "Seldom have I passed up drippings." Thereby, he lost all the treasures and half his wisdom to boot and he remained strange for the rest of his life.



# Iceland celebrates New Year's Eve with bonfires

Story by Einar Þórðarson

One of the most magical nights of the year in Iceland is the night when the old year changes into a new one.

Reykjavík is the place to be during this magical night, New Years Eve.

These bonfire celebrations will be remembered for the rest of your life.

The bonfires are family oriented. Many parents take their children to the bonfires. Everyone has a great time. Reykjavík has 11 bonfires scheduled for this year. Most bonfires begin at 8 or 8:30 p.m.

The biggest bonfire in Reykjavík will take place at Hagkaupsbrenna by Geirsnef.

This bonfire is by the Salmon River. If you would like to see this one take the road to Reykjavík, go passed Kringlan Mall, at the first traffic light take a right turn onto Miklubraut, go through two traffic lights and one underpass. You will see the bonfire on your left. On the map this bonfire is number 5.

Ægissíðabrenna: This bonfire is close by Hotel Saga, the National Library and University Movie Theater. You head that way on your way to Reykjavík airport. When close to the airport you will se this bonfire on your right. On the map this bonfire is number 1.

The Pearl: There will be a big bonfire near the Pearl called Suðurhlíðarbrenna. You will see this bonfire when driving the main road to Reykjavík, after you have gone through Kópavogur, take a right when you see the underpass, you then take the overpass, drive through two traffic lights, when you see the Reykjavík

Fire Department, take a left, like you are heading to the hotel by the airport. There you will see this bonfire. On the map this bonfire is number 3.

Leirubakki: This bonfire is close by the church that looks like an Indian teepee. You take the back road to Reykjavík when you are in Hafnarfjörður, by the FH stadium or the first traffic lights you reach on your way. At this point you drive by four traffic lights and just after you have passed the biggest mall in Iceland, Smáralind, you take the right turn just before you reach the underpass. There you will see the bonfire on your left. On the map this bonfire in number 9.

Along with the bonfires, fireworks are also prominent during this time.

Fireworks will go off at midnight. Icelanders say ‘sprengja út árið’ or in English “blowing out the old year.” They exchange wishes for a good new year, and thanks for the old year. Many families will spend a small fortune purchasing their fireworks.

Wherever you go there will be a magnificent fireworks display.

People from all over the world will be in Reykjavík to join in the celebration.

Take advantage of this once-in-a-life opportunity.

There are also many excellent places where you can view the fireworks. For a more secluded evening, drive to Hafnarfjörður, then just before you reach the cemetery make a right turn by the first stadium (shortly after the Aluminum Factory). Drive to the top of the mountain for a great view.

For another terrific viewing spot, drive passed the cemetery, pass Kentucky Fried Chicken, and

go through the traffic light. Go straight and pass Bessastaðir (the President Church/residence) to the sea. From there you will have an excellent view of Reykjavík and all surroundings towns.

For another wonderful view in Reykjavík while on route 41, at the first traffic light by the FH stadium make a right turn (the back road to Reykjavík). Then stay on this road until passing the, Smáralindmall, and when you reach the underpass take the right turn toward the overpass, there you will see the church that looks like an Indian teepee. Take the right turn, go through the next traffic light and stop adjacent to the ESSO gas station.

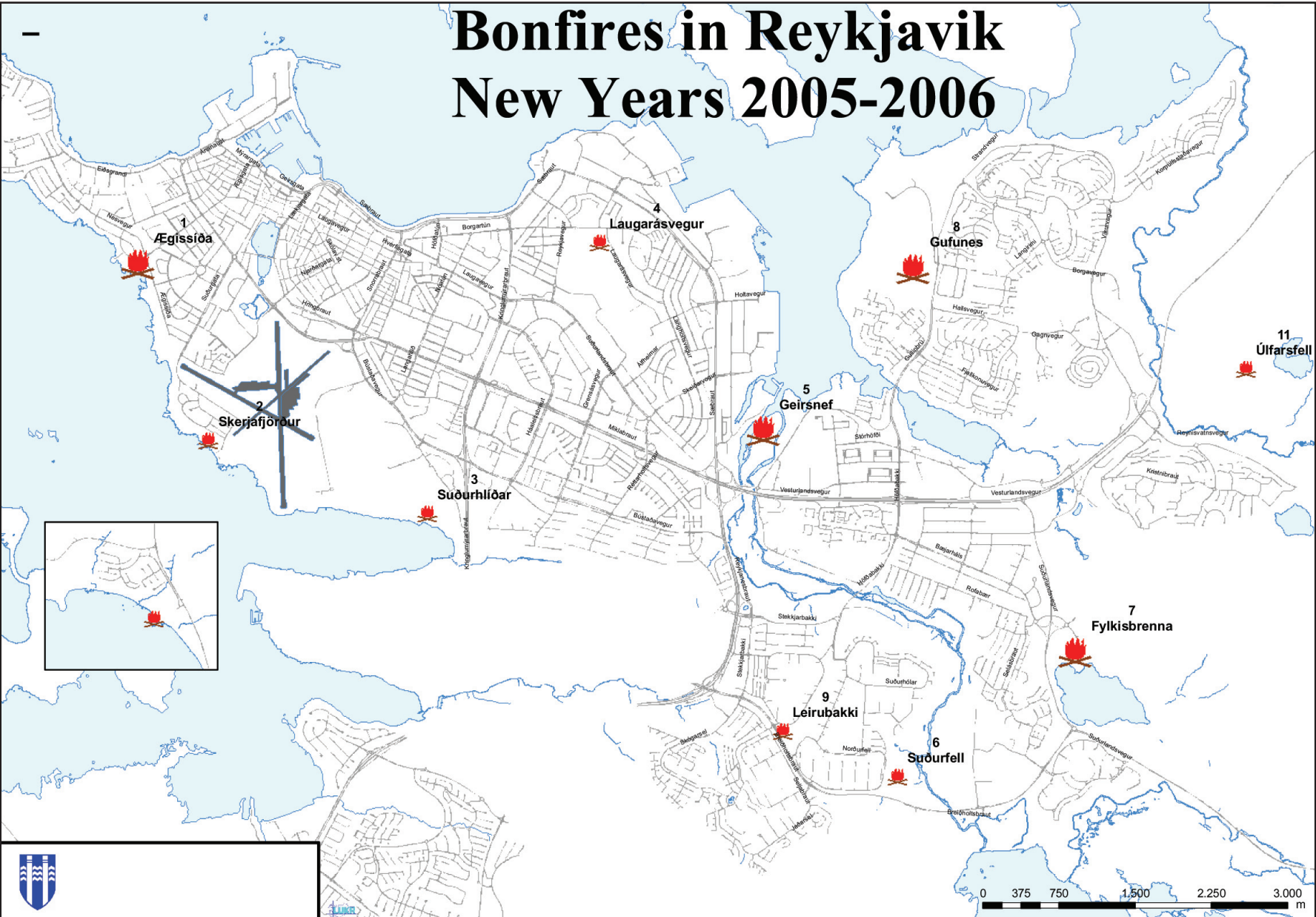
From here you will have a good view and be surrounded by lots of people. This is by the bonfire number 9.

For another viewing location near the Pearl, make a right turn instead of a left at the entrance to the Pearl and proceed up the hill next to the Pearl. For a good location you should arrive no later than 11:30 p.m.

Just keep in mind if you show up early and park by the Pearl you might have difficulty leaving the area at your convenience. It is recommended to park further away and walk.

After the fireworks display, many young people like to stroll downtown in central Reykjavík by the pubs and nightclubs. The more mature crowd will either stay home or visit friends and/or family members. Many people will return home in the early morning hours after a good night out.

Best wishes for a very happy New Year from the Fleet and Family Support Center Staff.



# Salute to Excellence



## Jan. 06 Promotions

Congratulations to the upcoming U.S. Air Force Airmen who have demonstrated their ability to succeed.

### Master Sgt.

Ryan, Kellee	85 GP
Williams, Jimmy Jr.	85 MXS

### Tech Sgt.

Banner, Michael	85 GP
Heskew, Nathaniel	IDF
Hoyt, Teresa	85 CES

### Staff Sgt.

Banks, Christian	85 CES
Carter, Jason	85 MSS
Detray, Skiy	56 RQS
Gaertner, Jerrod	85 SFS
Henderson, Cynthia	85 MXS
Hullum, Nicole	85 MXS
Jordan, Zach	85 MXS
Joyner, Rashonda	85 CES
Lengyon, Elsie	85 MSS
Santos, Duane	85 MXS
Strandberg, Michelle	85 SFS

### Senior Airman

Bullins, Amber	85 MSS
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### Airman 1st Class

Castillo, Oscar Jr.	932 ACS
Pagulayan, Marcus	932 ACS

### Airman

Goff, Jason R.	85 CES
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Col. Craig Croxton, USAF

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#### **Assistant PAO**

JOC(SW) James Junior

#### **Administrative Assistant**

Sigríður Svansdóttir

#### **Journalist**

JO2 Matthew Bradley

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Everything advertised in *The White*

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# Match the Yule Lads

Match the Yule Lads with their pictures and see how much you know about the local culture and the holiday season! For answers go to page 14. Do this only if completely stumped ... Santa is watching for cheaters!



A



B



C



D



E



F



G



H



I



J



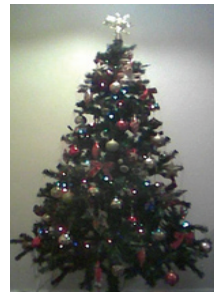
K



L



M



Dec. 12 – Stiff Leg

Dec. 13 – Noise Maker

Dec. 14 – Shorty

Dec. 15 – Spoon Licker

Dec. 16 – Pot Scraper

Dec. 17 – Bowl Licker

Dec. 18 – Door Slammer

Dec. 19 – Skyr Gobbler

Dec. 20 – Sausage Swiper

Dec. 21 – Window Peeker

Dec. 22 – Door Sniffer

Dec. 23 – Meat Hooker

Dec. 24 – Candle Beggar

## NAS Keflavík Arts Council weekly update

**St. Dórlákur's Day, named after Iceland's patron saint, takes place tomorrow.**

**It's perhaps most famous for**

**being the busiest shopping day of the year as people happily bustle with last-minute gift buying.**

**It is traditionally the day for preparations and cleaning for the Christmas holiday festivities.**

**It is also traditional to eat skate (a type of ray fish) and potatoes. This lye-preserved fish smells strong while cooking, but tastes delicious.**

**If this sounds good, some restaurants sell St. Dórlákur's Day dinners, Dec. 23.**

**Regardless of your culinary tastes, this is a fantastic day to enjoy the festivities of Christmas.**

**Christmas carolers and festivities will be happening in the streets, shops and restaurants throughout the afternoon and evening.**

**All the shops, including the Art**

**Galleries on Skólavörðustígur will be open until 10 or 11 p.m.**

**A good time is nearly guaranteed on this festive occasion.**





# Airmen bring Christmas joy to remote Alaskan village

Special to The White Falcon

For the 38th year, Airmen from Elmendorf Air Force Base have brought the holidays to a small village in northern Alaska.

The tradition started in 1967 when, due to migration changes, Arctic Village hunters were unable to get the caribou that sustained them. That year, the 17th Tactical Airlift Squadron transported the hunters to a location closer to the caribou herd, and then took them and their bounty back to the village.

While a lot has changed since then, some things have remained the same.

“The village is a bit of a (contradiction). On the one hand, they have wireless Internet access, snowmobiles and generators and there are children walking around listening to Walkman radios,” said U.S. Air Force Capt. Marc Woodworth of the 517th Airlift Squadron and the organizer for this year’s trip.

“On the other hand, they largely live off the land and the caribou herd is still vital to their survival,” he said. “Their houses are very small by our standard, and have very few of what we would consider normal amenities. Outhouses, as opposed to toilets, are the standard and running water is a luxury.

“Yet, they are happy and content,” the captain said. “It just goes to show you that happiness does not walk hand in hand with material wealth.”

Arctic Village resident Lorane Nikolai said living without running water is not nearly as tough as getting supplies.

“We have a small general store here,

but it’s really expensive and doesn’t have a large selection,” she said.

So, the villagers make trips to Fairbanks to load up on supplies.

“It costs about \$350 to \$400 to go to Fairbanks,” she said. “Because of the cost, we don’t get to go very often. We are just so grateful for the help (the Air Force) brings us.”

The trip was originally scheduled for Dec. 6, but was postponed until Dec. 13 due to weather.

“We get up early for the arrival,” Nikolai said. “When we found out that the tradition was delayed, we were disappointed, especially the children.”

One of the highlights of the trip, especially for the children, is when Santa and his helpers pass out the presents.

“The best part of the trip for me, bar none, was the surprise and excitement on the children’s faces, particularly the very young ones, when we handed out the Christmas gifts. As corny as it may sound, it made all the hard work worth it,” Woodworth said.

Along with the presents, the visitors brought food, winter clothing and company. In return, the villagers gave what they could.

“You could tell the villagers put forth a lot of time and effort into preparing a wide variety of food,” said Airman 1st Class Robert Aten, a 3rd Communications Squadron videographer. “I really enjoyed the cultural diversity.”

Woodworth never had the opportunity to visit such a remote village.

“I did not know what to expect,” the captain said. “What I experienced was



**Brig. Gen. Hawk Carlisle greets Olivia Hollarath, and her sister, Brittany, during a traditional visit between Airmen from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska and the Athabascan Indians of Arctic Village, Alaska. “Neets’aii Gwich’in” is the name given to the village by the Athabascan Indians. The 517th Airlift Squadron came to the village’s aid in 1967 and has made an annual visit ever since. Carlisle is the 3rd Wing commander. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Garrett Hothan)**

a sense of warmth and welcome that is difficult to describe. Here we are, people from hundreds of miles away from a different culture, and we were made to feel at home within minutes of our arrival. It was a unique and valuable experience.”

The villagers sang song and fed the Airmen and family members.

Organizing the event has gotten easier in the last 38 years.

“We have a long-standing relationship with Arctic Village (residents), and since they have Internet access and

reliable telephone service, correspondence is now only a keystroke or phone call away,” Woodworth said.

The captain said teacher Rebecca Hansen has been the village’s primary point of contact with the Airmen.

“She has made the coordination process run as smoothly as we could have hoped for,” he said.

Brig. Gen. Hawk Carlisle, the 3rd Wing commander, said he hoped to continue the tradition.

“It’s been a great 38 years, and we will keep doing it as long as possible.”

## Santa Claus brunch



**The big man himself, Jolly ol’ St. Nick visits with Steven Nelson at the Three Flags Club Saturday brunch. Santa was heard to say that he had heard so many good things about the club’s weekend brunches, he had to check it out for him self. Santa also met with numerous other children and their families as they dined. (Courtesy photo)**

## Holiday message from NASKEF Fire Chief

The winter holidays are a time for celebration; which means more cooking, home decorating, entertaining, and an increased risk of fire.

With the approach of the holiday season and the fact that some of the station’s residents have already started decorating their homes with Christmas lighting, it is necessary to remind all concerned that now is the time to start pre-holiday fire prevention planning.

Buy only fire safe Christmas lighting and decoration material. Frayed cords, broken light sockets or the slightest defects have caused the saddest holiday tragedies.

Any outdoors lighting should be waterproof and clearly identified as designed for outdoor use. Don’t try to use indoor lights for outdoor lighting. Look for the U/L label on your Christmas lights. Thumb tags or nails should not be driven through the cords for fastening purposes in any place, use tape or similar fastenings. Holiday lighting should be removed as soon as the holiday season is over.

When you leave the house or retire for the evening, be sure to turn off all decorations by unplugging them from the wall outlet. Always disconnect any electrical appliance by grasping the plug, not by pulling the cord.

The Christmas tree base should be firmly supported and kept well away from sources of heat. Don’t locate the tree where it might block your escape in case of fire. Plan and rehearse what to do in case of fire.

Remember to test your Smoke Detector at least monthly, and if it does not work properly, contact the Fire and Emergency Services Department at extension # 4114 or 6532 for fixing or replacement.

Know the location of and how to operate the nearest fire extinguisher in your area.

If fire occurs sound the alarm and get everyone out of the building, then call the Fire and Emergency Services Department.

The emergency phone is # 9-1-1.

The Fire and Emergency Services Department wishes you a Merry “fire safe” Christmas and a Happy New Year.

- Answers to Yulelads quiz on page 12
- A Dec. 17
  - B Dec. 23
  - C Dec. 20
  - D Dec. 12
  - E Dec. 16
  - F Dec. 24
  - G Dec. 13
  - H Dec. 21
  - I Dec. 14
  - J Dec. 18
  - K Dec. 19
  - L Dec. 22
  - M Dec. 15